

TMC and TAMWG - TRRP Rehabilitation Project Implementation and Compliance Update

December 2015

Implementation Projects:

- Limekiln Gulch: Decommissioned the access road to upstream end of Project in November. Numerous depressions were left along the decommissioned access. Some of these are expected to result in seasonal wetland development. The road out to Union Hill RD and Highway 299 was improved (e.g., water bar installation) when equipment was moved offsite so that rain will be directed off the grade. Do not attempt to drive this road. Access the Limekiln project area by walking upstream on river left or by raft. Installation of the last cottonwood pole cuttings will be completed on river left along the R-1 and R-2 side channels, the week of December 14th. The site looks great thanks to great work from the contractor, the Yurok tribe.
- Upper Dutch Creek: Installation of 192 willow and cottonwood pole clusters (6 to 12 poles/cluster) was completed last week with Hoopa Valley tribal (HVT) staff working with Reclamation's construction contractor, Falcon Builders. Over the next two weeks, sedges and rushes, grass plugs, and red willow container stock, as well as some acorns and upland vegetation will be planted on site. Some final revegetation efforts, which do not require bridge access, may also take place in early 2016. The temporary bridge over Weaver Creek is scheduled for removal by December 22nd.

Environmental Compliance:

- Bucktail: Public Draft Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Site: Bucktail (River Mile 105.5 - 107.0) released for comment November 19, 2015. Public review period ends January 4, 2016.
- Lower Dutch Creek: Design and surveys complete. Working with Forest Service on NEPA and determining key issues and potential need for developing Project alternatives. Vehicular access across the river on USFS managed lands to residences on the right bank on private lands is a concern.
- Deep Gulch: Project Design report nearing completion. Draft design done and submitted to DWR for evaluation on base flood elevations with DWR's Trinity River HEC-RAS model. Working with BLM and North State Resources, our new environmental contractor (that worked with us on the Master EIR – programmatic EA) to facilitate development of the Project's environmental document.
- Administrative draft of Programmatic Biological Assessments for terrestrial and aquatic ready for circulation for review to NMFS and USFWS, and TRRP partners (e.g., land managers BLM and USFS) by January 2016.